

**UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
AGRICULTURAL MARKETING SERVICE  
POULTRY PROGRAMS, MARKET NEWS BRANCH  
60 FORSYTH STREET, SW SUITE 6M80  
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**April 4, 2003**

**ESTIMATED U.S. LIVE POULTRY SLAUGHTER UNDER FEDERAL INSPECTION  
FOR WEEK ENDING 05-Apr-03 (THOUSAND HEAD)**

	CURRENT WEEK 04/05/03	PREVIOUS WEEK 03/29/03
BRO-FRY	155,248	158,032
LT HENS	1,961	1,684
HVY HENS	1,444	1,476

**U.S. FOWL SLAUGHTERED IN CANADA  
WEEK ENDING 29-Mar-03 (THOUSAND HEAD)**

	LIGHT HENS	HEAVY HENS	TOTAL
HEAD	239	0	239
HEAD SLTR COMPARISONS			
LAST WEEK	139	3	142
SAME WEEK YR AGO	154	0	154
TO-DATE/2003	3,891	53	3,944
TO-DATE/2002	4,504	20	4,524

SOURCE: AGRICULTURE CANADA, POULTRY DEVELOPMENT DIVISION

**TOTAL U.S. FOWL SLAUGHTERED IN THE U.S. AND CANADA**

	LIGHT HENS	HEAVY HENS	TOTAL
HEAD	2,219	1,391	3,610
HEAD SLTR COMPARISONS			
LAST WEEK 1/11/03	1,736	1,283	3,019
SAME WEEK YR AGO	2,132	1,250	3,382
TO-DATE/2003	25,274	17,495	42,769
TO-DATE/2002	27,824	16,778	44,602

**LIVE POULTRY SLAUGHTERED UNDER FEDERAL INSPECTION  
WEEK ENDING 29-Mar-03 (THOUSAND HEAD)**

	YOUNG CHICKENS	LIGHT HENS	HEAVY HENS	TOTAL HENS
HEAD	152,814	1,980	1,391	3,371
AVG WT	5.07	3.43	7.84	5.25
HEAD SLTR COMPARISONS				
LAST WEEK	153,022	1,597	1,280	2,877
SAME WK YR AGO	146,133	1,978	1,250	3,228
AVG WT	5.31	3.41	7.99	5.18
TO-DATE/2003	1,934,639	21,383	17,442	38,825
TO-DATE/2002	1,976,909	23,320	16,758	40,078

(A) The estimated number of fryers available for marketing based on the 2-week revised average chick placements 6 to 7 weeks earlier was 155.7 million head. Estimated U.S. slaughter for this period 154.7 million head or 1 million head less than or 99% of estimated fryers available.

**YOUNG CHICKENS SLAUGHTERED UNDER FEDERAL INSPECTION,  
CLASSIFIED BY LIVE WEIGHT, WEEK ENDING March 22, 2003**

(A) FAST FOOD/FOOD SERVICE	(B) RETAIL	(C) DEBONING
4.20 LBS & DOWN	4.21-5.25 LBS	5.26 LBS & UP
-----THOUSANDS-----		

Head	27,427	29,572	40,349
Avg Weight	3.71	4.74	6.30
% of total /1	28%	30%	41%

COMPARISONS

Last week	26,160	21,941	36,261
Avg Weight	3.71	4.83	6.21
% of total /1	31%	26%	43%

Same week, yr ago /2	24,096	24,088	49,831
Avg Weight	3.77	4.70	6.13
% of total /1	25%	25%	51%

To date/2003	278,799	255,892	505,621
To date/2002	374,445	284,745	564,289

/1 MAY NOT TOTAL TO 100% DUE TO ROUNDING

/2 COMPARABLE WEEK

- (A) This weight class generally denotes chickens marketed in the fast food and food service industries. May also include Cornish hens.
- (B) This weight class generally denotes chickens marketed in the retail industry.
- (C) This weight class generally denotes chickens used in further processing. May also include heavy roasters sold in retail channels.

**LIVE TURKEYS SLAUGHTERED WEEK ENDING 29-Mar-2003  
(THOUSAND HEAD)**

	YOUNG (B) HENS	TOMS	YOUNG BREEDERS	OLD BREEDERS	TOTAL
HEAD	1,592	2,920	37	28	4,577
AVG WT	16.22	36.68	26.89	27.90	29.43
HEAD SLTR COMPARISONS					
LAST WEEK	1,777	2,744	43	28	4,592
SAME WK YR AGO	1,584	2,512	21	1	4,118
AVG WT	16.63	35.56	26.25	52.45	28.23
TO-DATE/2003	21,823	33,933	718	211	56,685
TO-DATE/2002	22,367	33,858	532	105	56,862

SOURCE: USDA/AMS POULTRY PROGRAMS, MARKET NEWS BRANCH.  
FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION, PLEASE CALL (404) 562-5850.